



Clarion January 2008

UNIT EXECUTIVE

Mike Swannell	Past President	652-3409
Don Hinse	President	656-2692
Shane Holwell	1st Vice/Sports	656-0914
Shirley Skelton	2nd Vice/Secretary	
	/Lotteries/By-Laws	652-4627
Marge Baart	Membership	656-1503
Cathie McGinnity	Special Events	655-6568
John Gill	Canteen	652-5407
Harry Sanderson	Finance	656-7105
Jimmy Lee	House	656-4473
Ron Scott	Entertainment	656-3845
Joe Harrison	Meat Draws	656-6918

L.A. EXECUTIVE

Michelle Humber	Past President
Marlene Powell	President
Betty McLelland	1st Vice
Maxine Ansell	2nd Vice
Cathey Somerville	Secretary
Sandra Fullbrook	Treasurer
Helen Watt	Sick/Visiting
Faye Davis	Membership & Publicity
Joy Scott	Ways & Means

Luke Humber: Club Manager
 Web Page: www.unit302.ca

Office: 656-2051

Fax: 656-6410

Bar: 656-3777

The Clarion
A.N.A.F. Unit 302
Sidney, BC

Publicity	Mike Swannell
Editor	Don Fisher
Typing	Don Fisher
Layout	Don Fisher
Pictures	Don Fisher (Unless otherwise indicated)
Contributors	Your Executive Committee

Please note that all reports in the *Clarion* are pre-General Meeting and therefore are for information only. They are open for discussion and must be ratified by the membership at the General Meeting.

The *Clarion* is published for the information of all members of ANAF Sidney Unit 302. There are a limited number of copies, so members are encouraged to share a copy with another member. Any suggestions and/or material for future issues can be submitted and left in the *Clarion* box next to the Manager's office or you can use the email address below. Please ensure your name and telephone number is clearly marked on all material for any follow-up or clarification purposes.

Editor: e-mail to "donfisher@shaw.ca"

Web Page: "www.unit302.ca"

WebMaster: Don Fisher

January Issue 2008



British Newspaper Salutes Canada Sunday Telegraph Article

From today's UK wires: Salute to a brave and modest nation - Kevin Myers, The Sunday Telegraph LONDON - Until the deaths of Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan, probably almost no one outside their home country had been aware that Canadian troops are deployed in the region. And as always, Canada will bury its dead, just as the rest of the world, as always will forget its sacrifice, just as it always forgets nearly everything Canada ever does.

It seems that Canada's historic mission is to come to the selfless aid both of its friends and of complete strangers, and then, once the crisis is over, to be well and truly ignored. Canada is the perpetual wallflower that stands on the edge of the hall, waiting for someone to come and ask her for a dance. A fire breaks out; she risks life and limb to rescue her fellow dance goers, and suffers serious injuries. But when the hall is repaired and the dancing resumes, there is Canada, the wallflower still, while those she once helped glamorously cavort across the floor, blithely neglecting her yet again.

That is the price Canada pays for sharing the North American continent with the United States, and for being a selfless friend of Britain in two global conflicts. For much of the 20th century, Canada was torn in two different directions: It seemed to be a part of the old world, yet had an address in the new one, and that divided identity ensured that it never fully got the gratitude it deserved.

Yet its purely voluntary contribution to the cause

of freedom in two world wars was perhaps the greatest of any democracy. Almost 10% of Canada's entire population of seven million people served in the armed forces during the First World War, and nearly 60,000 died. The great Allied victories of 1918 were spearheaded by Canadian troops, perhaps the most capable soldiers in the entire British order of battle.

Canada was repaid for its enormous sacrifice by downright neglect, its unique contribution to victory being absorbed into the popular Memory as somehow or other the work of the "British." The Second World War provided a rerun. The Canadian navy began the war with a half dozen vessels, and ended up policing nearly half of the Atlantic against U-boat attack. More than 120 Canadian warships participated in the Normandy landings, during which 15,000 Canadian soldiers went ashore on D-Day alone. Canada finished the war with the third-largest navy and the fourth-largest air force in the world.

The world thanked Canada with the same sublime indifference as it had the previous time. Canadian participation in the war was acknowledged in film only if it was necessary to give an American actor a part in a campaign in which the United States had clearly not participated - a touching scrupulousness, which, of course, Hollywood has since abandoned, as it has any notion of a separate Canadian identity.

So it is a general rule that actors and filmmakers

Continued on next page

From previous page

arriving in Hollywood keep their nationality - unless, that is, they are Canadian. Thus Mary Pickford, Walter Huston, Donald Sutherland, Michael J. Fox, William Shatner, Norman Jewison, David Cronenberg, Alex Trebek, Art Linkletter and Dan Aykroyd have in the popular perception become American, and Christopher Plummer, British. It is as if, in the very act of becoming famous, a Canadian ceases to be Canadian, unless she is Margaret Atwood, who is as unshakably Canadian as a moose, or Celine Dion, for whom Canada has proved quite unable to find any takers.

Moreover, Canada is every bit as querulously alert to the achievements of its sons and daughters as the rest of the world is completely unaware of them. The Canadians proudly say of themselves - and are unheard by anyone else - that 1% of the world's population has provided 10% of the world's peacekeeping forces. Canadian soldiers in the past half century have been the greatest peacekeepers on Earth - in 39 missions on UN mandates, and six on non-UN peacekeeping duties, from Vietnam to East Timor, from Sinai to Bosnia.

Yet the only foreign engagement that has entered the popular on-Canadian imagination was the sorry affair in Somalia, in which out-of-control paratroopers murdered two Somali infiltrates. Their regiment was then disbanded in disgrace - a uniquely Canadian act of self-abasement for which, naturally, the Canadians received no international credit.

So who today in the United States knows about the stoic and selfless friendship its northern neighbour has given it in Afghanistan? Rather like

Cyrano de Bergerac, Canada repeatedly does honourable things for honourable motives, but instead of being thanked for it, it remains something of a figure of fun.

It is the Canadian way, for which Canadians should be proud, yet such honour comes at a high cost. This past year more grieving Canadian families knew that cost all too tragically well.

I've received this article many times by our members and have included it as a wonderful tribute to those who chose and presently choose to serve their country and the world in our quiet Canadian way.

Cna yuo raed tihs? Olny 55 plepoe out of 100 can.

I cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulacly uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The pha-onmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid, aoccdrnig to a rsearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it dseno't mtaetr in waht oerdr the ltteres in a wrod are, the olny iproamtnt tihng is taht the frsit and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it whotuit a pboerlm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Azanmig huh? Yaeh and I awlyas tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt!

Many girls like to marry a military man - he can cook, sew, and make beds and is in good health, and he's already used to taking orders.



Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.



Old age is when former classmates are so gray and wrinkled and bald, they don't recognize you.

The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

Friendship

Friendship is something you cannot buy.
Relationship comes from an
Inward feeling from the heart.
Everyone, each of us, has a
Need for a friend.
Devotion, hope and tolerance
Show us the way.
Having knowledge of the good and the bad
Inborn in some-one, is the greatest
Proof of that some-one you call a friend.

M (Sonny) Shah
02 Apr 07
ANAF Unit #302

Sidney Tab Fairies



To All My Wonderful Fabulous Awesome Lovable
Tab Fairies

That means you!

We have had a great year, so will break it down as best I can.

As of November 14th donations have been made to:

Kiwanis Toys (Hamper) \$100.00

Irina Goundareva Medical Fund \$100.00

Sidney Food Bank \$300.00

Church Hill In Trust N. Saanich (Homes burnt) \$50.00

Tour de Rock (Ross) \$50.00

Tylynn Howsen Fundraiser for Liver Transplant (7 yrs old) \$50.00

For a total of \$650.00

Balance on hand as of Oct 10th \$570.41

Have a wonderful New Year.

Love yas

Sylvia Fehr

Dee & Bob Jones

Bob Larsen & Friends



Member Profile - William (Bill) Turner

William E. Turner was born in Rossland, B.C. December 9, 1923. He enlisted in the RCAF in June 1941 when he was 17 years of age. After his 18th birthday he was posted to Edmonton where he did his basic training - Manning Depot where he was assigned to a Precision Parade Flight thence to the University of Alberta for Initial Training and finally to the Air Observer School at the Edmonton Airport. In December 1942, Bill received his Navigators Badge and Commission. After 12 days leave he was sent to Halifax and then overseas to England for operational training. Before training was completed his crew was sent on an unexpected posting to 205 Group RAF in Tunisia in North Africa. Air operations consisted of 104 Sq, 40 Sq, 150 Sq, 162 Sq, and two Canadian Squadrons 424 and 425. The following stories are but a couple of accounts from Bill's notes and log book about his experiences during his service in the RCAF.



Bill Turner
December 1942

205 GROUP RAF: (Operations)

205 was a tactical group that had supported the 8th Army from Egypt to Tunisia and continued into Italy doing the same work. All operations were performed using twin engine Wellington Aircraft. The Wellington (Wimpy) was the only military aircraft that was in operation early in September 1939 to August 1945. Targets included troop concentrations, roads, bridges, airfields, seaports, oil refineries and dropping mines in the Danube River.

The landing strip was on the northern fringe of the

Sahara, summer conditions were hot (110 F) and very dry. All personnel lived in tents that were also occupied by rats, scorpions and the odd snake. Drinking water was rationed. Food was basic military rations, which we occasionally supplemented with melons, figs, dates and prickly pear. The Officers' beer quota was ½ bottle per month, what few bottles we received went to the ground crews. The RAF acquired a spacious Italian Villa at Sorrento. This was our rest camp, which we could visit 4 days every six months. This was heavenly compared to flying operations.

My last operation on October 29th, 1944 consisted of dropping supplies in Dubrovnic in Yugoslavia. On the night of Nov. 2, as we were boarding the plane for a night bombing raid, the Commanding Officer of 40 Squadron drove up and forbade me from flying that night. RCAF authorities noted that I had not had extended leave from flying for well over a year, and I was to be sent back to Canada as soon as possible. By this time I had successfully completed 78 operations (44 bombing and 34 Clandestine), which was equivalent to two tours. I celebrated my 21st birthday with relatives in England, I was then on a troop ship heading for Canada.

Bill retired from service in 1945 with the Rank of Flight Lieutenant. He holds the following medals: 39/45 Star, Italian Star, Defense of Britain, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal, Victory Medal, and Canadian 125 Medal. He also has the Operational

Continues next page

Member Profile - Bill Turner continues from last page

Wing and Bar. (Very few ever received the Bar as it showed a second tour, and not many survived to make a second tour).

Raid on Turin Ball Bearing Factory (Nov. 24/43):

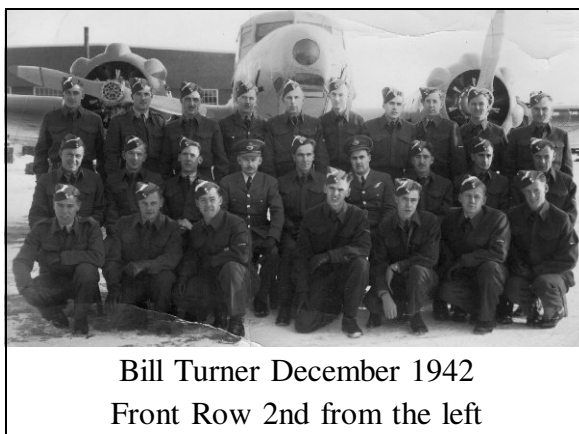
A pronounced cold front was very active over the area we were to traverse. It was hoped the front would weaken before we arrived at the Italian coast; but it grew more intense with winds 50-70 knots - this was not to helpful for an aircraft flying at 120 knots. We were blown off course and we were unable to get a specific pinpoint. We were confronted by masses of cumulus and cumulonimbus clouds. We couldn't reach a higher altitude as our dear old Wimpy had troubles. We had to go below the cloud to try to get an accurate pinpoint to put us on the right course to the target. We descended to a planned altitude of 3000 ft. I suddenly spotted a light that should not have been there. The WOP dropped a small flare and immediately lit up the ground below us revealing an Italian Villa with a marble statue in the garden. We were less than 300 ft, I anxiously told our Pilot to pull up and told the bomb aimer, who was in the nose of the craft, to drop our bomb load. We were just about blown to pieces by our own bombs. Our pilot (Eric) saw more than the rest of the crew - he never spoke the rest of the way home.

We then went down the coast of Sardinia. We saw two or three explosions, which were later, discovered as being crashed Wellingtons. We finally got a pinpoint and headed to our landing strip at El Oudna

in Tunisia. The de-briefing was not a happy one - the losses were in the neighbourhood of 25% with very few aircraft reaching the target.

Flying Operations with the USAAF over Balkan Countries (1944):

The squadrons involved were the 51st and 11th Troop Carrying Squadrons of the USAAF. We were to fly over the Balkans to supply various partisan groups with needed equipment etc. Few crews had experience with night navigation. Bill was one of three navigators that had this experience and they were sent to help. Bill was 20 yrs old.



Bill Turner December 1942
Front Row 2nd from the left

The first operation was in daylight (Feb. 23, 1944). This involved three C47's (Dakotas) towing three gliders. The flight started in Bari, Italy and headed for a farmer's field 10 miles North West of the city of Bosanski Petrovac (not far from Sarajevo). Our aircraft carried supplies for the

partisans. The gliders carried very senior officers of the Russian Army together with crates of Vodka and Caviar. Our base was in Brindisi, but we used Bari as a takeoff point. We slept on the floor of the plane eating K rations while the Russians were royally treated in special quarters prepared for them. We were cold and wet and none too happy with the arrangements.

The weather finally cleared and we took off flying formation with a squadron of American P47 Thunderbolts as escorts. A beautiful day, blue sky,

Continues next page

Member Profile - Bill Turner continues from last page

snow covered mountains and valleys and us playing the part of “sitting ducks” waiting for the first attack by German fighters. Unbelievably no fighters appeared. Once we dropped our loads the P47’s disappeared and we were left alone to find our own way back.

The three planes separated and flew at low levels to avoid detection - this meant going down into valleys and climbing over mountains. When the weather was clear and communications established we would take off for some remote village in the mountain valley to look for a signal fire, which did not always appear. With narrow valleys it required considerable skill of the pilots. We needed to get into a position at 300 ft to safely parachute supplies. More than once the plane would be so close to the mountainside the trees nearly scraped the plane belly.

These types of operations went on till the middle of May. Dropping agents behind the German lines in Italy and Yugoslavia provided a little more excitement. Once we were given the job of picking up escaped prisoners of war from the same field where we had dropped the gliders two month previously. We were pretty tense until we broke through the cloud to see six small fires outlining the landing strip. I was very satisfied that I had not directed the plane into a cloud that had rocks in it. We rescued 27 prisoners including Major Jones, a Canadian, who had been working with Tito.

My last flight with USAAF was May 5, 1944. I was then sent back to 205 Group. With reduced activity in the area, some planes were assigned daylight drops over Yugoslavia with supplies carried in the bomb bays. This was much easier than pushing boxes out the side door of a C47. These operations were

carried out under the direct supervision of the Officer of Strategic Service (OSS) of the U.S. Government, which later became the CIA. I often proclaim that I was the first Canadian to be seconded to an American spy organization.

After retiring from the RCAF, Bill went to U.B.C. and became a high school teacher. He taught math, Chemistry and Physics. Bill taught 9 yrs. in Cumberland; 2 yrs in Nigeria; 5 yrs in Singapore; 1 yr. in Malawi, and 11 years at Oak Bay. Bill is twice widowed and is very proud of his children - Susan, Bill, and Wendy, who live in B.C. while the youngest son Bruce lives in Ottawa.

On a personal note I find this quiet, unassuming gentleman to have a great sense of humour and he has a merry little twinkle in his eye. I am proud to call him friend, and I am proud that he has allowed me a peek into his life in the RCAF.

This is another Veteran we should all be proud of, although like the other Veterans I have interviewed, he tells me he was “just doing his job”. Let us never forget these brave individuals that fought so hard to allow us the freedom we enjoy today.

Fraternally yours,
Shirley Skelton
(Printed with permission from William (Bill) Turner).



Pension Income Splitting

All Pensioners should read and be familiar with **Pension Income Splitting** which became effective 01 January 2007. On the next few pages you'll find the who, what, why, when, where and how questions and answers from the CRA website at:

<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/agency/budget/2007/pension-e.html>

Q.1 What is pension income splitting?

A.1 Beginning with 2007 income tax returns, Canadian residents will generally be able to allocate up to one-half of their income that qualifies for the existing pension income tax credit to their resident spouse (or common-law partner) for income tax purposes.

The amount allocated is deducted in determining the net income of the person who actually received the pension income, and it is included in computing the net income of the spouse or common-law partner. Pension splitting affects the calculation of income and tax payable for both persons, so they must both agree to the allocation in their tax returns for the year in question.

Q.2 Is it necessary to contact the payer of the pension?

A.2 Splitting eligible pension income does not have any effect on how or to whom the pension income is paid, so it does not involve the payer of the pension. Information slips will be prepared and sent to the recipient of the pension income in the same manner as previous years.

Q.3 Who qualifies for pension income splitting?

A.3 A pension recipient (pensioner) and his or her spouse or common-law partner can

elect to split the pensioner's "eligible pension income" received in the year if:

- They are married or in a common-law partnership with each other in the year and are not, because of a breakdown in their marriage or common-law partnership, living separate and apart from each other at the end of the year and for a period of 90 days commencing in the year[[Footnote 1](#)]; and
- They are both resident in Canada on December 31; or
 - If deceased in the year, resident in Canada on the date of death; or
 - If bankrupt in the year, resident in Canada on December 31 of the calendar year in which the tax year (pre- or post-bankruptcy) ends.

Q.4 What is "eligible pension income"?

A.4 Eligible pension income is generally the total of the following amounts received by the pensioner in the year (these amounts also qualify for the pension income amount):

- The taxable part of annuity payments from a superannuation or pension fund or plan; and
- If received as a result of the death of a spouse or common-law partner, or if the pensioner is age 65 or older at the end of the year:

Continued next page

- Annuity and registered retirement income fund (including life income fund) payments; and
- Registered Retirement Savings Plan annuity payments.

Note: Old Age Security and Canada or Quebec Pension Plan payments do not qualify.

Q.5 How do individuals elect to split eligible pension income?

A.5 The pensioner and spouse or common-law partner have to make a joint election in prescribed form with their income tax returns for the year on or before their filing due date (generally April 30 of the year following the tax year, or June 15 if self-employed). The new Form T1032, *Joint Election to Split Pension Income*, will be available by January 2008. The 2007 income tax return will include a new line for the pensioner to deduct the amount of pension allocated to the spouse or common-law partner. A new line will also be added for the spouse or common-law partner to report the allocated pension income.

Q.6 Who will claim the tax withheld at source from the eligible pension income?

A.6 The income tax that is withheld at source from the eligible pension income will have to be allocated from the pensioner to the spouse or common-law partner in the same proportion as the pension income is allocated.

Q.7 Will pension income splitting affect the pension income amount?

A.7 The pensioner will be able to claim whichever amount is less: \$2,000 **or** the

amount of his or her eligible pension income after excluding amounts allocated to his or her spouse or common-law partner.

The spouse or common-law partner will be able to claim whichever amount is less: \$2,000 **or** the amount of his or her pension income that is eligible for the pension income amount, including the allocated pension income.

Note: A pension that qualifies for the pension income amount in the hands of the pensioner does not necessarily qualify for the pension income amount in the spouse or common-law partner's hands because eligibility can depend on age ([see question 4](#)).

Q.8 Does pension splitting affect the Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax (GST/HST) credit, Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB), and other federal or provincial benefits and tax credits?

A.8 Allocating pension income to a spouse or common-law partner reduces the pensioner's net income and increases the spouse or common-law partner's net income. As a result, benefits and tax credits that are calculated based on the total of the net incomes of both spouses or common-law partners-such as the GST/HST credit, CCTB, and related provincial or territorial benefits-will not change as a result of pension splitting.

However, pension splitting will affect any tax credits and benefits that are calculated using one individual's net income, such as the age amount, the spouse or common-law partner amount, and the repayment of Old Age Security benefits.

Continued next page

Q.9 If pensioners intend to split pension income when filing their returns, can they ask for a reduction of tax being withheld from the eligible pension income during the year?

A.9 The CRA cannot approve a reduction of tax withheld at source based on an election to split pension income.

Q.10 If pensioners intend to make this election when filing their 2007 returns, can they reduce their instalment payments?

A.10 Many individuals, including pensioners, are required to pay tax by instalments, and the CRA issues instalment reminders to them indicating the amounts to be paid by each instalment due date. However, as an alternative to paying the amounts shown on the reminders, instalment payments can instead be made based on either the individual's prior-year net tax owing and CPP payable, or his or her estimated current-year net tax owing and CPP payable.

Under the current-year option, an individual can estimate his or her current-year net tax owing for 2007 based on the intention to split pension income. However, if the instalment payments are insufficient, instalment interest may be charged. More information about instalment payments and instalment interest charges is available in Pamphlet [P110](#), *Paying Your Income Tax by Instalments*.

Footnote

[Footnote 1]

A pensioner and his or her spouse or

common-law partner will still be eligible to split pension income if living apart at the end of the year for medical, educational, or business reasons (rather than a breakdown in the marriage or common-law partnership).

Did You Take Part in Chemical Testing?

The Government of Canada has announced it will provide a tax-free payment of \$24,000 to about 3,500 veterans who took part in chemical warfare agent experiments in Alberta and Ontario between 1941 and the 1970s. If the veteran has passed away, the payment may be given to his or her primary beneficiary. The Department of National Defence is administering the payments.

To apply for the payment, veterans or qualified beneficiaries may go to www.forces.gc.ca/centre or call **1-800-883-6094**. Applications will be accepted until March 31, 2006. The payment is in addition to disability pension benefits to which veterans may be entitled.

Reprinted from the Veteran's Affairs website at: <http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/clients/sub.cfm?source=salute/july2004/chemical>

The Merchant Law Group have launched a class action aimed at receiving additional compensation for those whose health was jeopardized by the chemical testing. There is no fee to join the action and one may do so on-line at: <http://www.merchantlaw.com/chemical.html>